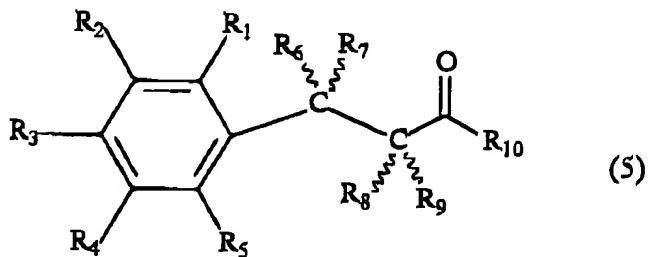


Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 1 with the following text:

The compound of formula (1), where  $R_{10}$  is a hydrogen atom, can be prepared by reacting under reductive alkylation conditions an aldehyde having the formula (5):



where  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$ ,  $R_5$ ,  $R_6$ ,  $R_7$ ,  $R_8$ ,  $R_9$  and  $R_{10}$  have the same meanings as  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$ ,  $R_5$ ,  $R_6$ ,  $R_7$ ,  $R_8$ ,  $R_9$  and  $R_{10}$ , respectively in formula (1);

### IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

*b3*

30. (Amended) A method of imparting sweetness into a substance comprising adding at least one compound of claim 1 to said substance, wherein said substance is selected from the group consisting of a food item, a beverage, a soft-drink, a fruit juice, a tea, water, a confectionery, chewing gum, a hygiene product, a toiletry, a cosmetic, a pharmaceutical product and a veterinary product.

31. (Amended) A method of producing the compound as defined in claim 1, wherein  $R_{10}$  is a hydrogen atom comprising: